

THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF THE 9/25/12 MEETING

The Meeting convened at 1:00pm at the Gashes Creek Road Recreation Division Office.

Those attending: Mary Albert, Jan Banks, Allison Bond, Karl Katterjohn, Ron Kennedy, Mike Lathrop, Richard Leatherman, Josh O'Conner, Gayle Sovinee

Guests: Alyce Knafllich.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Introductions were made by the attendees.

Motion made, seconded and passed that the August meeting minutes be accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Ron Kennedy reported that our new FY budget of \$1000.00 has been approved by Mr. Cliser business service manager for the City. Motion made, seconded and passed to reimburse Gayle \$43.00 for Bele Chere expenditures.

Old Business

Committee Restructuring Update: Josh announced that he will be resigning from the committee. Michael Reich has offered to accept the chair position. We plan to discuss filling the vice-chair position at our Oct 23 meeting. Allison Bond announced that she will be resigning from the committee in order to focus her efforts on the Affordable Housing Committee she is a member of. These changes leave us with a membership of eleven.

Allison and Richard reported that the VA Stand Down event occurring on September 6@9-NOON at the Stephens Lee Recreational Center with 210 homeless veterans in attendance. Some of the services provided were distribution of clothing items, eye exam, haircuts, hot meal and claims assistance. It was noted that this was the first time most of the veterans had attended a Stand Down. This reflects the success the VA Per Diem programs are having with discharging veterans into permanent housing within a 12 month or less period.

Veterans Day Ceremony: Alyce reported that the November 11@11:00 event will be held at the VAMC. The agenda is to have guest speakers from each period of war.

Holiday meeting schedule: There will not be a meeting in November. Our December 11@1:00 meeting will be held at the Veterans Restoration Quarters and will include a pot luck. A signup sheet will be available at the next meeting.

New Business

Mike Lathrop reported that he would like to request a City of Asheville proclamation for U.S Army day in commemoration of the Army's Birthday for June 14, 2013. He presented a memorandum to serve as a request for proclamation. Motion made, seconded and passed that the request be moved forward to the City Mayor.

Upcoming Events

UNCA will be hosting a veterans day panel at the Stephen Franklin building Nov. 11@2:00. Michael Lathrop will be participating.

Josh will continue to have his **www.ashevilleveterans.com** website available for information and updates.

AB Tech will be hosting on October 9-10 through NC Vets Mobile services to veteran to include filing of claims, requests for DD-214, VA Home Loan information.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 23 at 1:00pm at the Recreation Division Office on Gashes Creek Rd.